

PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL

9 May 1947

Rear Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

May I suggest that you give serious and early consideration to convoking what used to be General Vandenberg's Civilian Advisory Group?

When I was in New York a few weeks ago, I had occasion to talk to Mr. Jackson. He at once wanted to know what your attitude was to be with regard to that Group. I think it should be made clear to you at the outset that these people are high caliber, successful men who, having had considerable experience with Intelligence during the War, now have a strong interest in it as responsible civilian leaders. They recognize its tremendous current importance and want to see CIG successful.

I am afraid that General Vandenberg did not fully exploit their ability to help him. They are conscious of this. Needless to say, they can be of great help with our internal problems as well as our external ones. They collectively represent intelligence expertise and experience hardly to be found anywhere else. By ignoring them now, we not only lose this potential aid but we lose strong friends and perhaps make dangerous enemies.

Your secretary has, I am sure, the names and addresses of the individuals concerned. If not, I have them or can get them.

Sincerely,

*Edwin L. Sibert*  
EDWIN L. SIBERT  
Brigadier General, USA